

## Message Text

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PAGE 01    CALCUT 00381 060939Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W  
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R 060837Z MAR 78  
FM AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
TO USDOC WASHDC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6562  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS CALCUTTA 0381

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: BTRA, IN  
SUBJECT: TOUR OF JAPAN AND EUROPE BY WEST BENGAL MINISTER FOR  
INDUSTRIES: MESSAGE FOR STONE & WEBSTER ENGINEERING CORP.  
N.Y. CITY.

1. ON MARCH 2 WE RECEIVED A CABLE FROM WALTER S. POTTER OF  
STONE & WEBSTER ENGINEERING CORP. (S& WEC) CONCERNING THEIR  
INVITATION TO CHIER MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES IN  
WEST BENGAL. INFO REQUESTED BY S#WEC AND ADDITIONAL INFO  
ARE GIVEN BELOW FOR MR. POTTER. USDOC IS REQUESTED TO CALL  
HIM IN NEW YORK (TEL: 212/736-1500) AND TRANSMIT  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING INFO.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE CHIEF MINISTER OF WEST BENGAL  
IS VERY UNLIKELY TO MAKE THE TRIP, DESPITE EXPECTATION  
IMPLIED IN POTTER'S CABLE. WEST BENGAL MINISTER FOR  
INDUSTRIES ACCOMPANIED BY THREE TECHNICAL EXPERTS IS  
EXPECTED TO VISIT JAPAN, U.K. FRANCE AND ROMANIA IN APRIL  
1978 IN ORDER TO LOCATE A SUITABLE FOREIGN COLLABORATOR  
FOR A PROPOSED PETRO-CHEMICALS PLANT TO BE BUILT AT  
HALDIA, WEST BENGAL. THE INDUSTRIES MINISTER HAS NO  
PLAN TO VISIT, USA, BUT WOULD ACCEPT INVITATION FOR A  
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MEETING WITH RPRESENTATIVES OF INTRESTED US FIRMS  
EITHER IN TOKYO, LONDON, OR ANY OTHER PLACE HE  
INTENDS VISITING. BY THIRD WEEK OF MARCH, WE EXPECT  
TO RECEIVE THE FULL ITINERARY OF THE INDUSTRIES  
MINISTER'S FOREIGN TOUR. ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY  
SCHEDULE, HE IS LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE IN TOKYO  
APRIL 1-6, AND IN LONDON 7-9.

3. AS REQUESTED FOLLOWING NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF WEST BENGAL MINISTERS SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED IMMEDIATELY TO POTTER:

(A) JYOTI BASU, CHIEF MINISTER OF WEST BENGAL

(B) DR. KANAILAL BHATTACHARYYA, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES, WEST BENGAL.

ADDRESS FOR BOTH: WRITER'S BUILDING, CALCUTTA 7000001, WEST BENGAL, INDIA.

4. CONGEN COMMENTS: WEST BENGAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORP. (WBIDC), A GOWB AGENCY, IS SEEKING TO PROMOTE THE HALDIA PETROCHEMICALS PROJECT BUT STATE'S NEW LEFT FRONT GOVERNMENT WILL NOT HAVE AN EASY PATH IN IMPLEMENTING THIS MAJOR PROJECT WHICH REQUIRES A MASSIVE RUPEE FUNDS OF MORE THAN TWO BILLION RUPEES, AND FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY. S&WEC HAS SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL SHOWING ITS INTEREST IN THE HALDIA PETROCHEMICALS PROJECT TO GOWB. M.K. GHOSH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CHEMICALS) OF WBIDC WROTE RECENTLY ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE TO S&WEC SUGGESTING THAT THE LATTER SHOULD INVITE THE CHIEF MINISTER AND THE INDUSTRIES MINISTER OF WEST BENGAL TO VISIT THE USA. SINCE ACCORDING TO PRESENT PLANS THE CHIEF MINISTER IS NOT TRAVELLING AT ALL IN THIS CONNECTION, AND THE INDUSTRIES MINISTER'S TRIP WILL NOT TAKE HIM TO THE USA, POTTER UNCLASSIFIED

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MAY WISH TO REQUEST A MEETING WITH THE GOWB INDUSTRIES MINISTER EITHER IN LONDON OR TOKYO. USDOC IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE POTTER THAT HE SHOULD SEND GHOSH OF WBIDC (CABLE ADDRESS: IDCOB) A COPY OF HIS MESSAGE TO THE GOWB INDUSTRIES MINISTER AS GHOSH IS LIKELY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MINISTER'S TEAM FOR THE FORTHCOMING TRIP. WE EXPECT TO SUBMIT SHORTLY A SEPERATE REPORT ON THE HALDIA PETROCHEMICALS PROJECT. PERKINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** TOUR OF JAPAN AND EUROPE BY WEST BENGAL MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES: MESSAGE FOR STONE & WEBSTER ENGINEERING CORP. N.Y. CITY.  
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